



STATE OF WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Brian M. Satula
Administrator

Scott Walker
Governor

For more information contact: Lori Getter, WEM Office: (608) 242-3239

For Immediate Release
September 8, 2014

Satula Appointed to International Disaster Group

Compact provides cross-border mutual aid with Canada

(MADISON) – Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) Administrator Brian Satula has been named co-chair of the Northern Emergency Management Assistance Compact (NEMAC). NEMAC is an international mutual aid assistance program between the Central and Prairie regions of the U.S. and Canada to help coordinate cross border mutual aid during a major emergency or disaster.

“We all know disasters know no boundaries and will not only cross multiple counties and states, but also nations,” said Satula. “That is why this agreement is so important to be able to help our neighbors during an emergency as well as the opportunity to train and prepare together ahead of time.”

As a co-chair, Satula will be building connections between the states and provinces, and coordinating resources responding between countries during a major incident. The NEMAC co-chairs are currently working on the request procedures, interoperable communications, border crossing issues, and an operations manual for individuals, teams and equipment operating in each other's country.

Congress approved the agreement in 2013 that allows Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin to participate in the cross-border mutual assistance with the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Saskatchewan. Similar agreements are already in existence with the Northeast and Pacific Northwest states.

Satula has been the administrator at WEM since May 2011. He has served on several committees with the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) including the NEMA Emergency Management Assistance Compact that coordinates interstate mutual aid and the joint NEMA/ Association of State and Territorial Health Officers committee. He also was recently named to the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region V Advisory Committee. In 2011, Satula graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School for Homeland Defense & Security. Prior to WEM, Satula had more than 33 years in the fire service in Wisconsin.